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Torrance, California
May 11, 1943

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, May 11, 1943, at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor McGuire called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll; those answering present being Councilmen: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. Absent: Councilmen: None.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held April 27, 1943; and of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held May 4, 1943, be approved as written. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from Mr. John Waugh, requesting permission to keep seven pigs on his premises at 2472 - 227th Street, for domestic purposes only.

Councilman Powell moved that the request of Mr. John Waugh be denied. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Road Department of the County of Los Angeles, regarding a proposal to install four-way boulevard Stop signs at the intersection of 190th Street and Western Avenue by the Police Department of the City of Los Angeles; and enclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. C. B. Horrall, Chief of Police of the City of Los Angeles, wherein he states that due to the new aluminum plants at the corner of 190th Street and Western Avenue, and with the expectation of a greatly increased number of workers going to and from these large plants, his Department is of the opinion that the posting of 190th Street and Western Avenue as a four-way boulevard stop intersection would be advisable. Mr. Horrall stated that his Department was in receipt of a communication from John McLaughlin, 241½ East 51st Street, in which he requests protection at the above intersection due to the volume of workers going to and from the aluminum plant.

Councilman Babcock asked Chief Stroh if his Department had received any such complaint.

Mr. Stroh replied that this was the first complaint he had heard, and while he admitted there was a great deal of traffic at the aluminum plants, it seemed to be moving very smoothly and he didn't think it advisable to install four-way stop signs at this time when everyone was trying to get them removed.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the matter of installing four-way stop signs at the intersection of 190th Street and Western Avenue be held in abeyance until the Police Department had made a further investigation. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the United States Engineer's Office, Los Angeles Metropolitan Area, requesting permission to use the easterly half of Border Avenue for the purpose of unloading lumber from the street team track spur of the Pacific Electric Railroad, for a period of approximately three months, commencing May 7, 1943; explaining that the lumber shipment is allocated for the construction of the Los Angeles Sub-Port of Embarkation Hospital.

Councilman Cucci moved that the request of the United States Engineer's office for permission to use the east side of Border Avenue for the unloading of supplies for the Los Angeles Sub-Port of Embarkation Hospital be granted. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. H. L. Byram, County Tax Collector, advising that two pieces of property which were included among the tax-deeded properties recently sold by the City, had been redeemed, and therefore the County was refunding the purchase price of these parcels, amounting to \$110.33.

Clerk Bartlett advised that the bidders on these two parcels had been notified that these lots had been redeemed, and the letter was filed as a matter of record.

A communication was read from the WALTERIA Civic Organization protesting the granting of a liquor license in the store building located on 242nd Street, between Hawthorne Blvd. and Neece Avenue, in WALTERIA; and requesting the City Council to oppose the granting of any liquor license in this or any other location in WALTERIA.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be authorized to write a letter to the Board of Equalization protesting the issuance of a license, as requested by the WALTERIA Civic Organization. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Civil Service Board advising that the vacation schedule for the Police Department was submitted and approved at its regular meeting held May 5th; together with the recommendation of Chief Stroh that Sergeant Haslam, Officer Garner and Officer Johnson be permitted to work during their vacation period and receive pay therefor; and that they receive their vacation pay on or before June 1st, 1943.

Councilman Powell moved that the recommendation of the Civil Service Board, that Sergeant Haslam, Officer Garner and Officer Johnson be permitted to work during their vacation period and receive pay therefor, be concurred in, and that they receive their vacation pay on or before June 1st, 1943.

Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented a bill from Ben S. Cohen and Wm. I. Zidell, in the amount of \$708.00; being fee for services in connection with the sale of the City Park property in Tract 4070. Mr. Bartlett explained that upon receiving this bill he called Mr. Cohen about it, and he then wrote a letter explaining that while he was not a real estate broker himself, a broker was involved in this transaction, and that he had explained this matter to the Council, and to Mr. Hitchcock.

Councilman Hitchcock stated that Mr. Cohen had introduced the broker to him but it was after the transaction with the City had been disposed of, and they were after adjoining property from the C.C.M.O. and nothing was said regarding any commission that he might receive. Furthermore, Mr. Hitchcock said he thought the charge was exorbitant even for a broker.

Councilman Cucci asked the City Attorney if the City could legally refuse to pay this bill. City Attorney McCall replied that he didn't think the City could legally pay this bill as Mr. Cohen was not a licensed real estate broker.

Councilman Powell moved that the communication and bill from Ben S. Cohen for commission involved in the sale of property formerly owned by the City of Torrance, be referred to the City Attorney for study and opinion at the next regular meeting of the Council. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1575

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 1572.

Councilman Babcock moved that Resolution No. 1575 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci,

Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1576

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, ACCEPTING BIDS FOR CERTAIN TAX DEEDED LANDS IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, AND INSTRUCTING THE CITY CLERK TO APPLY TO LOS ANGELES COUNTY FOR SUCH TAX DEEDS.

Councilman Cucci moved that Resolution No. 1576 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1577

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ACCEPTING DEEDS FROM COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES COVERING CERTAIN TAX-DEEDED PROPERTIES IN SAID CITY OF TORRANCE AND AUTHORIZING RECORDING OF SAME.

Councilman Cucci moved that Resolution No. 1577 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire asked what action was to be taken on the request of Mr. W. H. Stanger, Superintendent of the Water Department, submitted to the Council on April 27th, for permission to employ eight men for the purpose of making water installations.

Councilman Powell moved that Mr. Wm. H. Stanger, Manager of the Water Department be authorized to employ eight men, on a temporary basis, as and when they are needed, to install water connections in the new housing projects that might be started in the City of Torrance.

Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire asked if the Council was prepared to take action on the communication from Engineer Jain, relative to street and other improvements requested by Messrs. Katz and Pine on the east side of Cabrillo Avenue, between 222nd Street and Plaza del Amo, which was referred to the Council as a whole on April 27th.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that his former motion, made at a regular meeting of the City Council held April 13, 1943, regarding the installation of gutter, sidewalk and street surfacing on the east side of Cabrillo Avenue, between 222nd Street and Plaza del Amo, be rescinded; and that the City Clerk be authorized to notify Messrs. Katz and Pine of the action of the Council, with an explanation thereof.

Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire asked if the Council was prepared to act on the communication from California National Builders, Inc., requesting

the City to install a sewer on 203rd Street to serve the sixty-four lots in Tract 9901, which was referred to the Council as a whole on April 27th.

Councilman Babcock moved that the request of California National Builders, Inc. that the City install a sewer on 203rd Street to serve sixty-four lots in Tract 9901, be denied; explaining that the City had never put in a sewer system for any other subdivider.

Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire asked if the Council was prepared to act on the oral request of Mr. A. M. Rosenfeld, 440 West Seventh Street, San Pedro, for permission to place a house trailer on his property at the corner of Cravens Avenue and Torrance Blvd., to provide living quarters for a watchman to protect his service station.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request of Mr. Rosenfeld for permission to place a house trailer on his property at the corner of Cravens Avenue and Torrance Blvd., be denied.

Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell stated he had a communication from Chief of Police, John Stroh, recommending the appointment of Henry Eugene Garner as Acting Sergeant, effective May 1st, 1943, and that he receive Sergeant's pay.

Councilman Powell moved that Henry Eugene Garner be appointed as Acting Sergeant, on a temporary basis, effective May 1, 1943, and that he receive Sergeant's pay.

Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried on the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that Miss Lucille Stroh, who is employed as Acting Desk Sergeant in the Police Department, receive an increase in salary of \$10.00 per month, effective May 1, 1943; explaining that Miss Stroh had completed six months' service with the City.

Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell stated he had a communication from Chief of Police, John Stroh, recommending that Patrolmen Monroe Jack Angel, George W. Henderson and Roy B. Stout be refunded the fees paid by them for medical examination, as they have been employed by the City for more than thirty days.

Councilman Powell moved that the medical examination fees paid by Officers Angel, Henderson and Stout be refunded to them. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that the salaries of Jake Benner and John R. Winters, both Captains in the Fire Department, be increased from \$195.00 to \$205.00 per month, effective May 1, 1943; explaining that this was in accordance with an agreement to equalize the pay of the Captains in the Police and Fire Departments; and also that the salary of Fire Chief McMaster be increased from \$220.00 to \$250.00 per month; also, that the "Power Equipment Operators" in the Street Department, receive an increase in pay of \$10.00 per month, effective May 1, 1943.

Councilman Gucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Gucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell stated that he would like to bring up the matter of the enforcement of Ordinance No. 316, and proceeded to read Section 16, "ENFORCEMENT, LEGAL PROCEDURE, PENALTIES." Upon the conclusion of his reading, Councilman Powell stated it was his desire to prevent people coming in here and encroaching upon the intent of this Ordinance, which clearly provides for the uses to which property can be put. Whereupon, Councilman Powell moved that the City Attorney be instructed to proceed, with the assistance and co-operation of the Chief of Police, in carrying out the intent of this Ordinance, with the intention of making the City of Torrance as clean and healthful as possible.

Councilman Babcock inquired if this Ordinance applies to the feeding of hogs, and whether it was retroactive. The City Attorney replied that it was not retroactive.

Councilman Hitchcock asked if it was necessary that the Council take action to enforce the Ordinance. The City Attorney replied that from the wording of this Ordinance it appeared that it was necessary to take such action.

After discussion, Councilman Powell stated he would be willing to give the owners of hogs thirty days in which to get rid of them and abate the nuisance; and amended his motion by adding that the Chief of Police be instructed to notify all owners of hogs, in person or by mail, that they must get rid of them within thirty days.

Councilman Gucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. W. C. Pendleton, residing at 174th Street and Hawthorne Blvd. stated that he is the owner of approximately seventy-five hogs, and has been in the business of raising hogs for the past four and a half years. He explained that there were no houses within a quarter of a mile of him, and that he keeps them in concrete pens and feeds them on grain.

Councilman Gucci replied that as he had been in the business of raising hogs for over four years he would come under the classification of Existing conditions, and he would not be affected by this Ordinance.

Councilman Gucci stated that he had received several complaints in regard to dogs running at large, and presented for first reading, Ordinance No. 344, which he requested Clerk Bartlett to read:

ORDINANCE NO. 344

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
PROHIBITING PERSONS OWNING OR HAVING
CHARGE, CARE, CUSTODY OR CONTROL OF
DOGS ALLOWING THEM TO RUN AT LARGE.

Councilman Gucci moved that Ordinance No. 344 be adopted for first reading.

Councilman Hitchcock inquired if the adoption of this Ordinance would increase the cost of the contract the City held with the South Bay Humane Society. Chief of Police Stroh replied that it would not, and that Bernice G. Davison, Manager of the South Bay Humane Society had recommended this ordinance.

Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Gucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock stated that the City Attorney had requested that the City purchase an Ediphone for use in his office, for taking dictation; and explained that it is impossible to purchase a new

machine, but that a used machine, on which the Company will give the same guarantee as a new machine, can be purchased for \$435.00; and that they offered to rent a machine to the City for thirty days' trial for \$25.75, at the end of which time if the City desires to buy the machine the rental will be applied on the purchase price.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$25.75 be made for the rental of one Ediphone machine complete, for a trial period of thirty days. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Babcock moved that Walter L. Blair be employed as a bus driver, on a temporary basis, effective May 4th, 1943, to replace Jack Abernathy. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Babcock moved that Mr. Ward, Manager of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines, be authorized to employ Richard Larry as a bus driver, on a temporary basis, to replace Eugene H. Gordon, as soon as his services are available. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire stated he had received notice from Lieut. Lewellen, of the State Guard, who have been guarding our water tower, that they are moving out immediately and their Company would be disbanded.

Mayor McGuire moved that Lieut. Dulmage, and Lieut. Lewellen be given a letter thanking them for the services they have rendered to the City, and especially notifying Lieut. Lewellen of the fine co-operation we have received during the time they have been in the service of the State Guard and stationed in the Park.

Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mayor McGuire stated that he had met with Dr. Wood, of the Child Welfare Department of the Los Angeles City Schools, and they are contemplating starting a child welfare department in the City Park, occupying the buildings to be vacated by the State Guard.

Mayor McGuire explained that this service will be contracted and paid for on a fifty-fifty basis by the Federal Government and the people using this service. He also said it would be necessary to move the building now occupied as a barracks, and that Dr. Wood had requested some changes to be made in the building; and instructed Mr. Dale Riley to see Engineer Jain about this.

Councilman Babcock stated that he would like to request the Street Department to make a special effort to try and clean up some of the alleys in town, if possible, as they are in a very bad shape and he has had several complaints.

Mr. Jas. A. Evans inquired when the City was going to amend the Black-out Ordinance so the people can remain in the theater.

Chief of Police, John Stroh, stated there was nothing in the ordinance that would compel the people to remain in the building and he didn't think it would be possible to pass an ordinance requiring the manager of the picture show to keep all the people in the show during a black-out against their will. However, he said an ordinance could be passed compelling the people to remain off the streets.

Councilman Cucci inquired about the matter of protection for Civilian Defense workers who are injured while on duty.

Chief Stroh replied that the O.C.D. had a meeting recently

and this matter has been referred to the law enforcement agencies to pay any Civilian Defense worker who is injured a stipulated amount between \$30.00 and \$68.00 a month, but they haven't come to definite decision as to just what the amount will be; this applies to an authorized worker injured while on duty.

Councilman Hitchcock inquired about the present ordinance covering compensation insurance, and whether this would not cover Civilian Defense workers.

The City Attorney stated that the City should pass an ordinance increasing the duties of all salaried people, in the employ of the City, to include this work and then they would be included in the regular compensation policy we now have.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Attorney be requested to look into this ordinance and, if necessary, draw up an ordinance to cover City employees engaged in Civilian Defense work, if not covered by compensation insurance.

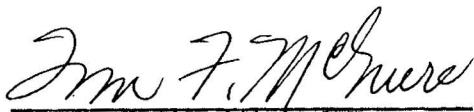
Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Babcock moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

At approximately 9:15 P.M., on motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Babcock, the meeting adjourned until May 18, 1943, at 4:45 P. M.


City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:


Mayor of the City of Torrance